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VICK'S

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY

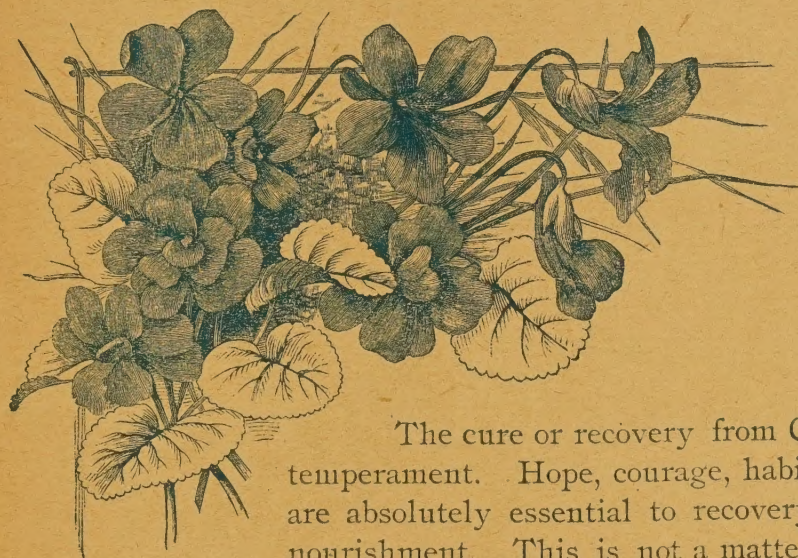
MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO THE PROFITABLE CULTURE OF FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.

Vick Publishing Co.
Fifty Cents Per Year.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH, 1895.

{ Volume 18, No. 5.
New Series.



HOPE

— FOR —

CONSUMPTIVES



The cure or recovery from Consumption is partly a matter of temperament. Hope, courage, habit of exercise and proper clothing are absolutely essential to recovery. Then comes the question of nourishment. This is not a matter of medicine. You have got to have a fat food that is easily assimilated, and you have got to have it continuously, so that the excessive wasting can be stopped and a process of repair commenced.

You ought not to wait until the lungs become seriously involved and vitality becomes low. You should commence to take Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil and Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda as soon as you realize your lungs are affected. There is nothing like it. It will do wonders for you if you take it regularly, as you do your meals. Your doctor will confirm this statement.

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Don't be talked into taking a substitute, as they are never as good.

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50 cents and \$1.

Enormous Yielder

Blight Proof

Maggie Murphy Potato

A Universal Favorite.

It Beats the World.

THE unanimous reports and samples of prize Potatoes that was sent us last fall from every State and Territory in the Union, also Canada, verify our statement that the MAGGIE MURPHY STANDS WITHOUT AN EQUAL, and is conceded by the most prominent potato growers in all sections to be the BEST OF ALL in *quality, yield, vigorous growth and general appearance*. Vick's Floral Guide, 1894, gave its World's Fair history and comparison with other varieties, showing that it possessed **thirty-three per cent.** more value than the average. This grand potato in form is a long oval, the skin a delicate pinkish tint with russet markings, eyes flush with the surface; plants very strong and vigorous, remaining green up to maturity; blight proof, and an abundant yielder. Plant, if possible, on light soil.

PRICE:

Per pound 30 cents; four pounds \$1.00; peck 75 cents; bushel \$2.00; barrel \$5.00. *At pound rates we deliver free. By peck, bushel and barrel, purchasers pay freight or express charges.*

Excellent Quality

Illustration
Natural Size

Gold Flower.

Great favorite. Hardy, excellent for borders, grand bedder, charming pot plant. Flowers from two to three inches across, of bright shining golden yellow, with numerous handsome stamens; handsome leaves, the upper side much darker than the lower.

Plants, 25 cents each; two for 40 cents. Extra strong plants, 50 cents each; two for 75 cents.

Hibiscus Sunset.

Seeds per packet 25 cents; two packets 40 cents. Plants, each, 25 cents; two for 40 cents; three for 50 cents.

Vegetable Seeds. Flower Seeds. Dahlias. Gladioli. Roses.
Bedding Plants. Shrubs. Small Fruits.

Everything that could be wanted for the Garden.

Send 10 cents for *Vick's Floral Guide*, which amount may be deducted from first order.

It will be a great assistance in deciding what is best.

JAMES VICK'S SONS,
Rochester, N. Y.

VICK'S MAGAZINE.

Vol. 18.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH, 1895.

No. 5

Down Where the Violets Grow.

Cool and damp are the meadows,

O, the meadows of long ago,—

Anear to the brooklet's margin,

Down where the violets grow.

There are robins atilt on the treetops,

There are bluebirds caroling low,

And O, the scent of the moist earth there,

Down where the violets grow.

There are willows all fluffed with catkins,

And bloodroots as white as the snow,

All tossing their cups to the morning,

Down where the violets grow.

Oh, damp and cool are the meadows,—

Those meadows of long ago,

And my heart goes back from the toilsome ways

To the cool, green meadows of childhood's days,

Down where the violets grow.

—Maud Meredith.

HOW MRS. BARNES WENT TO THE WORLD'S FAIR.



N a busy farmer's home, not a thousand miles from Chicago, the question had been discussed over and over again, how they shall all go to the World's Fair. There were six who wanted to go, and

only two of them besides the father and mother were old enough to earn anything of consequence, and these two could not be taken out of school. Those who have tried it know how fast the dollars will go when you are sending children from home to school. Mrs. Barnes had spent her whole life upon a farm, and she knew from experience that if they all went to the Fair somebody would be obliged to make an extra effort to get there. The berry crop would barely supply the table that year, as the family was large, and the crop would be light owing to a late frost. It took so many of the eggs to supply the home demand that they could not be counted upon at all. She might raise a lot more poultry than the usual amount. But did anyone ever try to do their very best with that flock of poultry when hawks did not steal every one they could, or the eggs were found not to hatch, or the Mistress Biddy would not set?

It always fell to Mrs. Barnes' lot to see to the garden; all the planning for a supply of the fruit and vegetables for a large family was expected of her, or they did not get any. She had been at her better half for some time to let her have a patch in the corn field of well-drained land, to put her cabbage and celery on. One cloudy, drizzly day Mr. Barnes came into the house and said:

"If you want your cabbage plants put out today the men may plant them."

"Can I have them on the low land?" All at once a bright idea struck her. Why could she not raise cabbage enough to go to the Fair

on. If it was a poor year they would sell; if not, the chickens could eat them. "Can I have all the room I want?"

"Oh! certainly."

Carefully she pulled the plants and set the men at work. They stopped at 1,200, and said they would not set out another cabbage plant. "Did she want the whole farm in cabbage?" You can see how much of the farm she had when the plants were set two feet apart. There was some more land left, but they knew "she would bankrupt them with that cabbage patch." The rest could go into potatoes. Take notice here,—they raised two bushels of potatoes on the ground left over, where she might have had 500 more cabbages.

Carefully she tended her cabbage, fought the worms which tried their best to eat them up, defied the grasshoppers, and in September her patch was a beauty, and no one else had any for miles around. So, upon the strength of it, she started with three of the older children to take in the World's Fair. She agreed to chaperone two others, and a merry party of six started for Chicago, under the care of one woman. Nine happy days were spent there, from early morning until late at night, tramping in that great White City, which was, and is no more. Their only accidents were lame backs and soleless shoes.

The girls returned to their schools and Mrs. Barnes to her home and cabbages, and to attend to the farm while her husband went with two others who wanted to see the great Fair.

In the latter part of October she harvested the cabbage crop. Then it was that she could say with all a woman's vim, "I told you so!" There was \$38 in cash, seventy-five heads in the cellar for winter, and two big wagon loads in the chicken-house for winter feeding, and a barrel of sauerkraut for winter use, and orders for 400 heads she could not supply, while the men's two bushels of potatoes lay in a pile. They did not say a word when she wanted her cabbage patch the next spring and planted without a word of objection 1,500 plants, which brought \$50 cash, besides enough for the family use, in spite of drouth and other difficulties. X.

A STRAWBERRY TEA.

"IT is too bad," said Helen, disconsolately. "We've been everywhere this winter and it's our turn to entertain."

"I know it," answered Kittie. "Just think of the luncheons eaten and unreturned, and dinners devoured and not paid back."

The girls were standing by the library window watching the rain-drops as they lost themselves in the brown mat of earth over against the garden wall.

The door opened softly and a gray-haired

lady of fifty or so, with a sweet face and a sweeter voice entered the room. The impatient tapping of Helen's foot ceased.

"What is the important question now, girls?" she asked, as she came and stood beside them, linking her arms lovingly into theirs.

"Oh, mamma," they both cried at once, "we do not want to worry you, but we do want to give some sort of an entertainment. We are under obligations to so many."

"I know it, daughters," said the mother; "I have worried—or at least thought about it. Your father feels that we have no right to spend money unnecessarily when the poor mill people have been idle so long; but I have concluded that we might give a party without spending so very much money, after all."

"Oh, you dear, blessed mamma" cried impetuous Kittie.

"You wouldn't have it 'scrimpy,' would you," asked matter-of-fact Helen.

"No, indeed, dear. There should not be a suggestion of hard times in our menu, and yet I am confident it may be a success at a trifling expense. The strawberry bed over by the wall, with its tender green leaves and delicate blossoms holds grand possibilities for us, I think. What could be prettier than a Strawberry Tea?"

The girls were jubilant, and as the mother unfolded her plans could hardly wait to begin preparations. Kittie was quite skillful with the paint-brush. She painted a couple of berries and blossoms across the corner of some cards, with the name of each guest written upon them; these would make such pretty souvenirs afterward. For invitations they used calling-cards with

A Strawberry Tea,
Tuesday, June twenty-sixth.
From 5 to 7 o'clock.

written in one corner. Fortunately their piazza was a broad, roomy one, screened by growing vines, and it was decided to hold the entertainment there. Ornamental plants were placed where they would prove effective, strips of carpet covered the floor and steps. Light rustic chairs and divans, besides rugs and cushions transformed it into a veritable parlor.

The guests came in pretty, cool, street costumes, and were served at little tables with a dainty menu. The sandwiches were tied with baby ribbon, strawberry color. Strawberries were served *a la Italienne*. The berries were placed in layers in a handsome dish with powdered sugar between and the juice of a fresh lemon squeezed over the top. The whole was placed on ice for two or three hours, and tossed up lightly just before serving to distribute the flavors of the lemon. White cake, with strawberry filling, decorated with candied strawberries upon a white frosting, was in effective keeping. Strawberry punch, frozen the same as ice

cream, was served in small punch glasses. Hot coffee—the beverage *par excellence* to serve with strawberries, combining with their delicious flavor as no other beverage will,—in after dinner cups, followed the ice, as a last course. All the viands offered were of simple description, but so prettily served and so inviting in appearance that every palate was tempted. While the guests were being served a music box hidden under a bank of strawberry blossoms, green leaves and smilax, discoursed sweet music.

Jollity and good nature reigned supreme, and the lack of formality gave zest to everybody's enjoyment. You may be sure Helen and Kittie were delighted with the success of their Strawberry Tea, and when they kissed their mother good-night Helen said "Mamma always knows how!" With which sentiment I think many others will emphatically agree.

NELLIE STEDMAN WHITE.

CLEMATIS JACKMANII.

VINES are a hobby with me, and I annually grow about forty-five or fifty kinds. Special vines are, of course, best suited to special places. There are probably fewer really good pillar vines than those of any other class.



CLEMATIS JACKMANII.

A slender festooning vine, airily wreathing the supports of a piazza or portico with garlands of graceful foliage and handsome flowers, gives an air of picturesqueness to any home. The best pillar vine I know of, without any exception, is Clematis Jackmanni. A good specimen of this is marvelously effective while in bloom, and remains in perfection for many weeks. As every one knows, its flowers are several inches across and open a velvety royal purple, turning soon to an intense blue. It is not a desirable cut flower, its big flowers and overpowering color making it an undesirable neighbor to more modest flowers in bouquets or vases; but wreathed in masses around a column or small trellis it is simply grand. The foliage is actually hidden beneath the solid sheet of starry blue flowers, the great wide-spreading blossoms crowding each other until their petals overlap. I do not see why it is so rarely grown. The vine costs more than other vines at first—propagation is so slow that all the large flowered clematis are held somewhat higher than other

kinds—but this clematis is very hardy, and not particular as to location or as to whether the soil is heavy or light, so that it is fed well. It needs high feeding, such as a good dressing of well-rotted manure or other fertilizer, each year, which should be well mixed with the soil. It is said that in very cold climates the wood of the vine receives less injury if laid down and covered with soil each fall. I do not do this, but I make a practice of cutting back the vine in the spring to half or two-thirds its previous year's growth. This seems to produce a new growth of greater vigor, and to give if possible a greater profusion of bloom.

LORA S. LAMANCE.

POTATO CULTURE.

WHILE the potato is largely a farm product yet no well regulated garden is quite complete without its few rows of fine early potatoes, which are sure to come into use long before the field crop is ready. Should the garden be a large one a few rows of the newer and most promising varieties planted each year will test the comparative worth and merit of our leading garden vegetable. Indeed it is a difficult task to make a proper selection,

rooted and with sturdy sprouts pushing their way toward the light. The crop raised was exceptionally large and fine.

For the garden plant in rows or drills three feet apart, the sets being placed one foot apart in the row. As they grow, keep clean and free from weeds by cultivating, hoeing, etc., and when working gradually draw up the soil around the plants. What we lack in the garden by having no sod to turn under must be made up by deep working, careful manuring and thorough and clean cultivation.

Much has to be contended with in the potato beetle, but even that may be overcome with constant care, and while many remedies have been advised we find nothing quite so effective as a constant lookout and the judicious use of Paris green.

In selecting tubers for planting the medium-sized well-formed tubers are best. These should be cut as desired into two, four, or even six pieces, always leaving a good strong eye to each. For our own planting we like best to cut in halves.

If a very early crop is desired it is best to put the potatoes in a place where the sprouts are likely to start some four to six weeks before planting in the open ground; in this time the shoots will have started strong and vigorous, so that upon planting they will send out roots and grow more rapidly than those planted out immediately in the open ground. A warm, light room or a moist cellar will do for this.

As to soil we have noticed that a clay soil intermixed with sand, enriched, produces the largest crops, and that a sandy loam yields potatoes of the finest quality and perfect smoothness.

Many new varieties of potatoes are steadily growing into favor and give promise of superior merit, but most of these must be thoroughly tested to prove their suitability to the soil and locality. While more potatoes can be raised in drills than in hills, yet for extensive planting the hill is oftener used, for when so planted a common corn cultivator can be run both ways between the rows and very little hand hoeing is necessary.

H. K.

OUR GARDENS.

THERE are very few seasons that irrigation will not prove beneficial to every garden, and those who possess a windmill and some hose can accomplish a great deal more than one would at first suppose. In the West, where we are subject to such freaks as droughts, hot winds, etc., we should prepare early so that we can save our vegetables at least, for if given plenty of water, hot winds can do no harm. The ground should be arranged so that the water will reach to every part; plant the vegetables in drills close enough so that two rows can be watered at the same time by laying the hose between the rows. When transplanting cabbage, tomatoes, celery, etc., draw trencher with a lister, and water thoroughly. Set the plants in the ditches and fill up as the plants grow; the ditch will be a receptacle for the water. When ready to water turn the hose on at one end of the row and by the time the water reaches the other end that row will have sufficient. And our flowers will be greatly benefited if we let the water on them occasionally.

Nebraska.

N. B. H.

as the quality of the potato varies greatly when grown in different soils and situations and it is only by a careful trial that one can find the varieties best adapted to his locality.

In field planting no ground is so good as old sod soil that has been turned under in the fall and left to rot during the winter, plowed lightly and well harrowed in the spring. This will, if the season be favorable, turn out an astonishingly large crop. For the garden the potato prefers a good deep sandy loam, good cultivation and liberal manuring in the drills. As to time of planting we can hardly get it in too early; and if planted deep, if very early, little fear of frost or freezing need trouble the cultivator. Last year tempted by the fine weather, we set some tubers in the ground very early in March,—the ground was old sod soil and a part of the soil was not entirely rotted. Then came the terrible cold and freeze before Easter. Of course we gave up our potatoes as lost, but strange to say, when the warm genial days of early spring came we found our potatoes lying in their warm nest, well

SWEET-SCENTED NICOTIANA.

THE character and merits of *Nicotiana affinis* have already, at different times, been quite fully set forth in these pages. The accompanying engraving illustrates the free-blooming habit of the plant. This *nicotiana* appears to be quite satisfactory to all who attempt its cultivation. Its culture is easy, its growth rapid, and the abundance of its agreeably scented flowers is a surprise to those first making its acquaintance. The seed should be started sufficiently early to give good plants for setting out in the garden by the first of June, when it will rapidly develop, as it needs the summer heat to produce a strong growth. A writer in the January number of this Magazine states that it is also adapted to window culture in winter, blooming freely, and the flowers remaining open longer than when grown out of doors.

VIOLETS.

VIOLETS can be raised in the window and will bloom profusely if given the proper conditions, without which few plants will thrive. In the first place get good, sturdy, young plants from some reliable florist in early spring or in autumn. When the young plants arrive they should be put in lukewarm water, without removing moss, for half a day at least, and put in a rather dark cool place. They can then be planted out in a shady situation, in a well prepared rich and rather heavy garden soil, or if preferred they can be put in pots at once, in a rich sandy loam; plant carefully, do not press the soil too firmly around the tender roots. Water and place in a north window until well established, which usually takes about a week; remove to a west window, water and shower frequently. With such treatment they will begin to bloom after a short time.

In summer the violet does best in a north window, but in winter I find a west window better. They should be allowed a rest during July and August by withholding water and keeping in a cool room or cellar, pinching off all buds as fast as they make their appearance. If the young plants are planted in the open ground they should be lifted carefully in September or October and given the treatment for window culture. This winter I have kept a violet in the kitchen in a west window, that has been in bloom all winter and shows no signs of rebelling as yet. I give the violets plenty of water, keep the foliage clean, and they bloom as well under the branches of the Chinese hibiscus, surrounded by begonias, as though protected by the noble oaks of the forest and surrounded by their natural elements. To those who think their houses are too cold, and who do not possess the much

sought for south window, try violets; they will gladly give you fragrant flowers for such a forlorn place. The violets multiply very fast, sending out runners in very much the same manner as the strawberry. As soon as the runners are well rooted sever the young plants from the old and they will give more blossoms; but on no account ever suffer the violet to become dry, or to endure the scorching rays of the mid-day sun. Violets propagated from runners will bloom after transplanting as soon as they have acquired sufficient size and strength. Immediate bloom should not be so much sought after as the health and thriftiness of the plants. N. B. H.



NICOTIANA AFFINIS — SWEET-SCENTED NICOTIANA.

ACHILLÆA, NASTURTIUM AND GYPSOPHILA.

WE sometimes hear it said, "I love flowers but they require too much time and care," or "I would have a flower garden, but nothing would grow in our poor soil." True, most plants flourish better in a good soil, tenderly watched and cared for, but it is a wise provision of nature that all plants do not need the same soil or a great amount of time and attendance to yield abundantly their beauty and fragrance. I recall several favorites of mine that certainly are but proof of this statement. One is the achillæa. It came to me a few years ago as a pleasant surprise. The name was new to me and did not suggest the wealth which the plant held in store. I at once sought the catalogue

for information as to the desirability of my gift, and have now proved that the description there given was not exaggerated. Twice I have transplanted it—or rather, them, for one soon became many—each time to less favored locations, but my treatment, apparently, is not resented, for though occupying a place where little else would grow. They spread rapidly and during the whole summer are completely covered with small white double blossoms, in large sprays,—just what is so often needed for bouquets, so pure and dainty.

Another favorite bearing a more familiar name is the nasturtium, generally known as "sturtion" in our mother's garden. The popularity of this flower steadily increases from year to year and it is well deserved. Nasturtiums flourish well in either wet or dry weather, in sunshine or shade.

"Whether the day be dark or fair
They do their best to brighten it."

I have found by experience that the nasturtium blossoms better in a rather poor soil. I am partial to the Lobbianum class for climbing and to the dwarf kinds for cut flowers. What more beautiful bouquet could one desire than the brilliant nasturtiums arranged with their own green leaves in a clear glass vase? Our church rarely looks more attractive than when decorated with nasturtiums. The long vines, bright with their red and golden blossoms, hanging from pulpit or twined around the standards, and surmounted with bouquets of the same arranged with gypsophila. A mound of Empress of India nasturtiums bordered by "The Pearl" or "Cloth of Gold," will add beauty to your garden throughout the season. As the nasturtium is an annual the seeds must be planted each year, but this requires little time or expense. Like all plants, they do better if not allowed to produce seed too freely, or to become choked with grass and weeds.

The tiny mist-like blossoms of *Gypsophila paniculata* add a graceful charm to nasturtiums or any other flower with which they may be used. This is one of those accommodating perennials, of which there are many, which when once established take care of themselves. Roses, pinks, pansies, and many other treasures hold a prominent place in my garden, but I could not well dispense with my nasturtiums, achillæa and gypsophila, and none receive less attention. I presume there are many other plants that might be classed with these for ease of cultivation, but if that object is sought try them and you will not be disappointed, nor will you find any which for continuous and beautiful blossoms are more desirable.

IRIS IRENE.

OLD FORT DALLAS.



Of all the beautiful locations I have seen in Florida, none to my mind equals that of old Fort Dallas, now the site of the little village of Miami. The old fort and barracks were situated on an elevated piece of land overlooking the bay, and on the north bank of that gem among Florida rivers, the Mi-

ami, with its palm-fringed banks and rapid flowing current of the clearest and purest of waters. Fort Dallas was established by the government during the time of the Seminole wars and was at one time quite a town, but at present nearly all of the old government buildings are destroyed or in ruins; one very large long stone building is in good condition, and when the county-site was located at Miami was used as a court house. The land is now owned by some northern parties who take no trouble to keep things in repair, though to judge from the great number of ornamental plants and trees scattered over a large tract of land there must have been a magnificent garden here at one time,—indeed I have been told by old residents of the country that when it was at its prime and was well cared for by the troops it was the finest place in Florida.

The first thing to attract one's attention on entering the mouth of the river is the magnificent cocoanut trees that line the banks of the river, planted years and years ago, and the largest, oldest and by far the finest grove of cocoanut trees to be found on the mainland of Florida. Many of the specimens are seventy-five to eighty feet in height, lifting their smooth, slim trunks and magnificent heads of great waving plumes far above the dense mass of vegetation at their feet. Some of them, leaning far over the water, form a picture of surpassing beauty, beyond description. With the exception of a few groves on some of the Keys, no similar sight can be found anywhere within the limits of the United States. These old trees were originally about 150 in number, but a great many have been destroyed by the severe hurricanes common to this part of the coast; some of them have been undermined by the encroachment of the river, and none of them are given the least care, and it is only a question of comparatively few years when all these grand old specimens will be gone. The last year I was there one of the most magnificent trees was destroyed by lightning. Great numbers of young and thrifty trees of all sizes have sprung up from the nuts of the old ones and are to be found everywhere along the shores of the river and bay and in the edges of the hammocks. The cocoa palm is certainly one of the greatest

charms of Dade and a small portion of Monroe counties, and in a bearing state is found nowhere else in the United States. It undoubtedly came to our shores by the way of the wonderful Gulf Stream before anyone thought of planting it. On the edge of some mangrove swamp or the rich soil at the edge of a saw-grass prairie, just the place that best suits this King of Palms, I have often found the nuts washed ashore and half buried beneath a great pile of sea grass with the shoot just coming out of the eye, ready to commence business of its own in a new country, after its long trip of perhaps hundreds of miles from its native shores of some far distant West India island.

Oftentimes during my residence here I would arise early, before sunrise, during the winter months when the air was so delightfully cool and refreshing and sweet with the perfume of many flowers, and wander down to the bay and plunge into the crystal water for a refreshing bath. It is hard to describe the beauty of such a morning here, just enough refreshing sea breeze to rustle the great plumes of the cocoa palms, and the hammocks alive with birds of many sorts who in the early morning seem to try to out-do each other in producing a chorus of what is to me the most delightful of all music, for the detestible bird-plume hunter has not yet entered this secluded spot to despoil nature of one of her most delightful charms.

Back of the old stone house, already mentioned, is what was once a vegetable garden, but what is now a dense growth of limes, wild lemons and guavas and great clumps of hibiscus, all overrun with a tangle of moon-vines (*Ipomoea noctiphyton*) native to this part of Florida, where it grows to a most enormous size. I have seen vines fully 100 feet in length—as it is rarely injured by frost and continues to increase from year to year, and is always covered with its large fragrant flowers. It is highly prized and admired by Northern gardeners as a most beautiful vine, but by the settler on Biscayne Bay it is regarded as a nuisance, and a most terrible pest it is, as I know from my own experience.

In front of the house, sloping towards the river and bay, is a large grove of rough lemons, limes, citrons, and sour oranges, all uncared for, but annually loaded with immense crops of fruit. Near the house are large clumps or trees of the large scarlet Chinese hibiscus, for they attain the size of small trees here, and are grand; on the east and north side of the house are two of the finest specimens of that beautiful tropical tree, the Avacado pear, *Persea gratissima*, and further down the slope another, and probably the oldest living specimen of this tree in Florida; it is of immense size and long past its period of usefulness.

In parts of the grounds the plants have formed quite a jungle of guavas, limes, and many plants that are cultivated in greenhouses at the north but which have here grown to an unheard of size.

In a part of the hammock north of the old parade ground I found one of the largest specimens of *Cereus triangularis* I have ever seen in the state.

The little town of Miami consists of only one

store and a few houses, and it reminds one of some Indian trading post, as it is the main trading point for all the Seminole Indians who inhabit the Everglades, and who are in much the same state of civilization as in the time of the famous "Billy Bowlegs."

MARTIN BENSON.

NEW PLANTS.

NEW to me, I mean; the "great moon-penny daisy," *Chrysanthemum maximum*, for instance. I sowed its seed last spring and got a number of plants very easily. Some of them bloomed in the fall, large single white flowers with a yellow disc, very much like the blossoms of the common field or ox-eye daisy, though rather more stiff and ungraceful; so, having fought this latter plant out of my meadows all my life, I was less carried away than I might have been when its buds opened. Still it has good points; it blooms on serenely after almost all other flowers are gone; its dark green, highly polished root-leaves, which with their slightly crenated margins, strong midribs and general outline have quite a resemblance to sharp, narrow quill feathers, six to eight inches long, were as green as ever the last time I saw them (December 29th); no doubt they will be green in the spring. It certainly has hardness to spare, and a large root with many flowers would be showy and good in its way, perhaps.

A number of sorts of climbing asparagus were noted in the Magazine for January, but all seemed greenhouse or window plants. The *Asparagus Broussoneti*, said to climb ten feet and to be perfectly hardy, is growing in my yard, last summer being its second season. The seeds are round; there is probably but one in a berry and they are quite easily started, though it is some time before they come up. My plant is still small and has not yet begun to climb, but I can see its foliage is very different from that of the garden asparagus. I made a little heap of fine manure six inches or so deep above it and it came through the winter all right. It is said to bear red berries and to be very handsome in autumn. The ground where it grows is snow covered if there is any snow at all, which may help.

The rosy lythrum, *Lythrum roseum superbum*, though it will grow in any garden, self-sowing and spreading somewhat even in sod ground, is a marsh plant naturally; it seems to me its bloom is brighter and more lasting by the water side, at least in a dry time. If you have a pond or stream at hand there is the place for it.

E. S. GILBERT.

Canaseraga, N. Y.

FRUIT FOR SMALL PLACES.

A GREAT amount of fruit can be raised in a small space, if one makes the right selection. The apple; which has so many insect and fungous enemies, can be raised successfully now only in orchards, and as a rule the raising of plums and peaches and pears will also be left very much to the professional fruit grower. But any garden can produce strawberries, and raspberries, blackberries, currants, and gooseberries. They give great returns for a small amount of care and labor, they are delicious and healthful, and by bottling they can be kept for use the year round. Another consideration about these fruits is that the plants can be easily propagated, and one can increase or renew his stock from time to time without further expense.



HIBISCUS CRIMSON EYE.

OW many flower-growers have tried this beautiful hardy hibiscus? It was offered for the first time two seasons ago, and at once met with the warmest commendation from all who tested it. It is said to be perfectly hardy anywhere, but I have yet to see how my own splendid plant will come through our severe northern winter. The top dies down when frosts come, but a strong new growth is sent up in the spring and in August and September is crowded with superb blossoms. It blooms the first and every year, becoming finer with age, a well developed plant being said to produce hundreds of its unique flowers in a season. The roots sent to me from Mr. Vick was a year old; almost as soon as planted it began to grow vigorously, and all summer proved to be a robust and rapid growing plant. Three tall strong stems soon shot up, dark red in color, covered with handsome dark green foliage also tinged with red, and terminating in bunches of little green buds. How anxiously they were watched from day to day and how very, very slowly they developed. It was a weary waiting, but the plant itself attracted much admiration and was well worth possessing even before it blossomed. Suddenly, when we were least expecting it, one of the magnificent flowers opened wide—then indeed did we feel that it had been well worth waiting for. It opened in the evening and visit after visit was paid to it before bedtime; in the bright moonlight it was perfect. For several weeks fresh flowers opened daily on this petted plant; they were of immense size, with broad flat petals, in color the purest white, with a brilliant crimson spot at the base of each petal, making a large velvety crimson eye in the center of each giant white blossom.

There are few hardy shrubs so valuable and satisfactory as this one, its only fault being the ephemeral type of beauty peculiar to the hibiscus, but there is compensation for this in the new flowers which open daily. This hibiscus is not particular as to soil, mine doing so remarkably well in ordinary garden soil, the only care it received being an occasional watering when the weather was very hot and dry.

MRS. S. H. S.

WORK FOR MARCH.

IN March, even in the climate of Northern Illinois, we commence the work of the garden. First comes the hotbed, which is a very necessary part; and for the benefit of those who have never made one I will describe how we make ours: Last year it was at the south side of a shed, and a pit four feet deep and 6x5 feet was dug for it. In this was placed mixed horse manure and straw that had been used for bedding, to the depth of three feet; over this a layer of good mellow soil six inches deep.

To prepare the manure for the hotbed it was first placed in a pile near the pit, being packed solid by treading it with the feet. This pile

was left a few days until the mass began to heat, when it was again forked over. It two or three days after that it was ready for use. When it seems to heat too fast mix with it dead leaves or even soil will answer; or if it does not heat fast enough mix a little bran with it, which will soon start it to heating.

A rough board frame can be built around the bed, having the front a foot lower than the back so as to better catch the rays of the sun, and also to run off the water during a heavy rain.

The bed was allowed to remain empty for a few days until the heat began to decline a little. The rule, I believe, is not to plant anything until the heat begins to go down towards 80°, which can be determined by plunging a thermometer into the soil.

A hotbed needs frequent airing, as the sun itself often furnishes enough heat during the middle of the day and that combined with the heat in the pit would soon burn up everything planted. The bed usually needs a good watering once in two days, and after it becomes late in the season and the weather is warm it will often need it every day, or even twice a day. Then it is sometimes best to give the glass a thin coat of whitewash, or stretch a sheet over it to cut off somewhat the effect of the sun.

In our bed we planted cabbage, cauliflower, pepper and tomato seeds for early plants for the garden; also radishes and lettuce for table use before that in the garden was ready.

Tuberous begonias, canna bulbs, and such plants took their turn there to get an early start. Celery seed was planted later and sweet potatoes were sprouted there ready for the garden in June. A few packets of choice canna seeds were planted in a box and placed in the bed where they grew wonderfully, and were quite fine plants when the weather was warm enough to bed them out. If anyone not used to planting canna seeds follows this plan I would advise them to file off a spot on one side of each seed and then soak them in hot water before planting. Few of them will germinate without this treatment, and even then one cannot expect to raise half the number planted.

Another work for March is the cutting-box in

the house. I have a box made on purpose; it is 10x16 inches and eight inches deep, having a groove near the top to hold a pane of glass for the cover. In this box about March 1st I put a quantity of clean sharp sand, filling it within three or four inches of the top. It must then be thoroughly wet and the cuttings placed in it as closely as they can stand. Give it a place in a sunny window, and see that the sand is always moist; air the box occasionally, so the plants will not rot, and you can hardly fail to root nearly all the slips.

By that time the plants in the windows have usually grown so large that I am glad to cut them back; these cuttings, especially those of geraniums, can be easily rooted in the pots with other plants, and do fully as well as more tender plants do in the cutting-box.

Many kinds of flower seeds can also be started in the house, if one wishes to do so. Pansies, verbenas and such plants can be raised so that one may have good-sized plants to bed out.

Those who, like myself, love the long fern-leaved Dusty Miller, will be glad to know that they can be easily raised from seeds, and the plants so produced are better than those from cuttings, to say nothing of the trouble of keeping the plant through the winter.

Gloxinias, coleus, and many other greenhouse plants can also be raised with a little care, but in damp cloudy weather it is often necessary to place the boxes containing the young plants or seed near the register or stove to keep them at an even temperature and prevent damping off. Glass must be placed over the boxes and fresh air be given often, as was advised for the cutting box. Z.

GOVERNMENT SEEDS.—Secretary Morton is doing good service by discouraging the free distribution of garden seeds by the government. The best of all reasons is that there is no more reason why seeds should be sent away by the thousands of dollars worth than that it should give away pen knives and scrubbing brushes. Indeed, it would be more sensible to send these useful things, for not one package of seeds in a hundred is ever sown. The distribution is simply a fad of Congressmen to keep themselves in the memory of the electors. Good work is the best road to popularity.—*Meehan's Monthly for February.*

For Old or Young

"I am never without Ayer's Pills in the house, as I have found nothing so good for a disordered liver. I give them to my children for worms and tell all my friends that, as a medicine, Ayer's Pills have no equal for either old or young."—Mrs. H. P. STANCHFIELD, Foreston, Minn.



AYER'S PILLS.

HIGHEST AWARDS AT WORLD'S FAIR.

Ayer's The Only Sarsaparilla

ADMITTED AT
THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Letter Box.

In this department we shall be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. JAMES VICK

Celery. Vick's Caprice Rose.

Will you please inform me through the Letter Box if celery can be grown on the same ground year after year with success, if well cultivated?

Will Vick's Caprice rose stand the cold of our Vermont winters outdoors in the ground, if well covered? *Starksboro, Vt.* MRS. L. W. C.

Celery may be raised successfully on the same ground if it is well manured.

As far as we know Vick's Caprice is quite as hardy as any other variety of Hybrid Perpetual rose.

Propagating Wistaria. Cabbage.

1—Please tell me through the Letter Box how to propagate wistaria vine; by cutting or in what way?

2—I wish to raise cabbage for market in a small way, and would like a few suggestions as to plants and varieties. *E. J. Arroyo, Pa.*

1—The wistaria is best propagated by layering the young growing shoots in summer, leaving them until the next season before removal.

2—For early cabbage use the Early Wakefield, for medium the Early Summer, and the Danish Ballhead for late or winter.

Small Spiders—White Worms in Soil.

Can you tell me what to do to kill small spiders and a small white worm that is in the soil of my house plants? There is a small black fly around that breeds them. *MRS. N. J. S. South Cabot, Vt.*

As a rule insects breed most rapidly in warm dry air. When insects or spiders are unusually abundant it is safe to say that the air is too dry for house plants. Frequent spraying of the foliage of plants will drive off spiders. The white worms, which represent one of the stages of transformation of the little black fly mentioned, can be destroyed by sprinkling powdered salt-petre on the surface of the soil, which, when watered, will be carried down to them with fatal effects.

Plants for Window Boxes.

Will you please tell me through the Magazine what to plant in my window boxes for summer? They are six feet long by one foot wide, with southern exposure, first and second story windows, with awnings over each. I have used nasturtiums to hang over and cover the boxes. Can you tell me anything better? I want something that will show well in blossom and foliage. Last year I used in one the double fringed petunia, but they were too tender, as the rain and wind broke them. *MRS. R. M. F.*

Nasturtiums are good plants for window boxes. The small-flowered petunias are also excellent, giving a great amount of bloom. They are very largely used for this purpose, and in our experience they have never shown any weakness in rain or wind. Other valuable plants for the window boxes are the annual varieties of lobelia, mimulus of different varieties, nolina, schizanthus, maurandya, thunbergia, nierembergia, alyssum, begonia, fuchsia, geranium, heliotrope, lantana, othonna, abutilon, Cuphea platycentra, Pilea serpyllifolia, Vinca major variegata and V. Harrisonii.

Potato Scab.

I notice in your January Magazine a remedy for Potato Scab, viz: Soak the seed in a solution of Corrosive sublimate. Do I understand that if the seed is not affected, but clean and smooth, if treated in this way the tubers grown will be free from the scab? I am unable to grow potatoes in my garden on that

account, no matter how nice seed is planted. I have tried wood ashes and potato phosphate in the hill, but still the potatoes are very bad. Have been told it was wire worms, and occasionally find one, but seldom, so cannot think worms the only or principal trouble. Will you please give me what information you can. *H. M. R. Danbury, Conn.*

As a precaution, potatoes intended for seed should be treated with corrosive sublimate as directed in our January number, even though apparently quite free from scab; the spores of the fungus may be present. Another precautionary measure is to plant on land which has not been occupied with potatoes for some time. Land where scabby potatoes have been raised should be used for some other crops for at least two years. Potato scab is not caused by wire worms or any other worms. It is a fungous trouble.

Knotgrass for an Immediate Crop.

Kindly inform me if your Sacaline, or Giant Knotgrass, will afford some fodder the first year after it is sowed, and about how soon can it be cut for fodder after it has been sowed in the spring. *H. S. S. Bradford, Pa.*

An annual plant, whose whole life is completed in a few months, makes a rapid growth from the very start. The oat plant, for instance, sowed in April or May, yields several tons to the acre by July or August. But a plant which is to endure for generations, such, for example, as the oak, is of comparatively slow growth. The first season it may make but a few inches, and perhaps but a little more the next year, but gradually it gains strength, and in time develops its roots and supports a great top. So the Giant Knotgrass when once established is good for many years, but the first year it makes but little top, and even the second year it is best not to cut it. It needs time to become established, and when that is accomplished it will show what it can do in producing annually a great crop. An immediate crop of fodder should not be expected. Those who plant it now will be able gradually to extend their plantations, and in the meantime test the plant and gain a knowledge of its worth. Neither the seeds nor the plants are yet so plentiful that plantings can be made on a large scale.

A Kansas Letter.

My order of 1894 that my husband sent in was the first I had occasion to use since you have constituted the firm—or indeed since I was married, fourteen years ago, and I must say I see no difference. My order was most promptly and nicely forwarded, and as generously contributed to as ever, and I thank you warmly for the extras and the bright little Magazines. They are full of good ideas. I want to select seeds for the new season, fruit, etc., in time for an earlier start than I had last year. My garden was a surprise to those in this neighborhood last year, and proved to most persons the worth of good seeds. As I suppose you know, Kansas was visited by a terrible drouth, and our section did not escape, but passed through it all—no rain, and fierce, hot, searing winds every day, and fully exposed, and no watering to help. My long row of the New Stone tomatoes (running east and west), and twenty large plants from one packet of Burpee's Bush Lima beans grew green and thrifty and yielded wonderfully; I was astonished and delighted with them. From one vine I plucked one extra large, smooth, perfect tomato that was curious, and I saved every seed of it. I will describe it: It was about as large as an average orange, and much the same shape, evenly striped from the stem to the blow end with alternate red and whitish-orange stripes about half an inch wide; there were many more fine tomatoes on the same vine, but uniform, dark red and of a different shape. Maybe you can place it, though the flesh was more acid than the others. My Minne-waska blackberries made an astonishing growth and are large, handsome bushes, every one of the twelve,

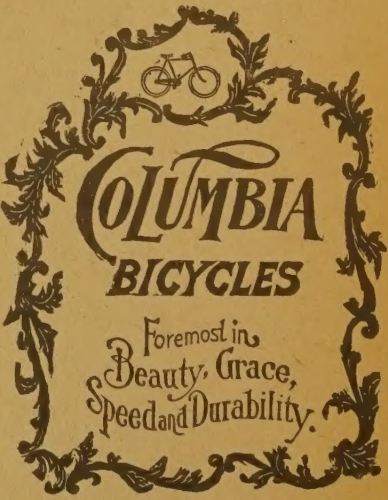
but the six Kittatinny, that you so kindly put in, all died; I believe their situation was not so good. So far I like the Cumberland strawberry the best of the four kinds I got (Wilson, Parker Earle and Eureka); they seemed to enjoy the drouth, and were the most exposed to sun and wind, too. The American Wonder and Maggie Murphy potatoes caught it the most and had everything in the calendar against them—even mice and moles to finish them up; still I collected about two bushels apiece of good tubers for seed; I believe they are fine and I will give them a better show this year, having had experience. The Charmer pea is certainly well named, and I was charmed. *MRS. D. P. I. Allen, Kas.*

Plant Gossip.

I want to tell you of the pleasure another year's growth of plants from your seeds has given me. The Goldenheart celery was perfect, crisp, tender, and the mildest flavored that we ever grew. The Nutmeg muskmelon was the best I ever tasted, and your Early watermelon better than any others ever raised in our gardens—our soil is not just right for them. The Perfect Gem squash disappointed us; more than half of them were as bitter as quinine and the rest stringy and of poor flavor. Two seasons we have planted Golden Nugget sweet corn at the same time as Perry's Hybrid and it has not half sprouted, and what grew was feeble; but the corn was delicious. Intend to try planting it later another year. With the Ten Weeks stock near the gate of my flower garden, a few feet away mignonette, and a little farther away sweet peas, it was truly a very sweet place; and every time I went near the latter I thanked you for telling us to plant in four-inch trenches and fill as they grew. Please accept many thanks for the Phlox Drummondii grandiflora seed; the flowers were no larger than those grown from my seed,—but such a variety. The Brilliant poppies could not have been better or more brilliant. The double dwarf delphinium took me back to my early childhood, when they, with white petunias, camellia-flowered balsams and little "silk" poppies grew in my grandfather's garden from seeds sent by your father with the *Genesee Farmer*. They taught me there were more than three or four kinds of flowers that could be grown from seeds, and the rich purple, clear pink, and snow white of the delphiniums of this year delighted my old eyes as those did my young ones. I never could afford to be more than one of your smallest customers, but I cannot begin to tell of the pleasure Vick's seeds have given me during my life. I found browallias bear transplanting and the change from out doors to windows as well as any plants.

Please tell me whether cyclamen, Oxalis Ortigiesi, calceolaria, manettia vine and Chinese primroses will grow well in windows where the temperature will vary occasionally from 40° to 65°, but usually 50°. *Fulton, N. Y. M. E. S.*

The plants mentioned are all successfully raised as window plants.



COLUMBIA BICYCLES

Foremost in
Beauty, Grace,
Speed and Durability.

POPE MANUFACTURING CO.,
HARTFORD, CONN.

BOSTON. NEW YORK. CHICAGO. BUFFALO.
PROVIDENCE.

An Art Catalogue of Columbias can be had free at any Columbia Agency, or it will be mailed for two 2-cent stamps. Tells, too, of the reliable Hartford Bicycles, \$30 \$50 \$75.

OUR BOYS.

"What shall we do with our boys?" he said, Old Merchant Brown, to his business wed, As with puzzled brow he shook his head.

"Will chooses the law," said Mrs. B., "And Ned," says the father, "he stays with me. I'll take him into the store as clerk, And if he'll be steady and 'tend to work He'll soon be partner, and when I die He'll be a merchant, the same as I."

"And now," asked the mother, "what about Jim, Our youngest; what shall we do with him?"

Jim heard the question. "Father," said he, "I'll tell you what you can do for me. As all my boyish pranks are played, It's time to begin—let me learn a trade."

"A trade, my son! That's a queer request. I'd rather treat you the same as the rest, And I can afford as well, you know: And a trade, Jim, isn't that rather low? I wanted to send you off to college To cram your brain with classical knowledge, Then to choose a profession that pleases you best. You learn a trade, Jim? I'm sure you jest."

"No, father, I mean just what I say. I've thought of the matter for many a day, And that is the serious choice I've made. If you don't object, let me learn a trade. You say it's low, but we don't agree—All 'labor is honor,' it seems to me.

"Not every lawyer can find success; Not every doctor, as you'll confess: But a man with a trade and a thorough skill Can find employment, look where he will. As for education, I still may learn—The night schools and lectures will suit my turn."

Then parents and brothers had their say, But Jim stood firm till he had his way.

Will went through college and studied law, And looked for clients he seldom saw.

Ned worked as clerk for a three years' term, Then his father took him into the firm.

Jim learned his trade, and learned it well; His motto, in all things to excel. His nights he spent in filling his mind With useful knowledge of every kind. As time went onward, all he learned To good and wise account he turned, Until, within him, he found, one day, A talent rare for invention lay.

And before very many years were passed, His fortune had come to him at last, Though long ere this he had found what's best—A home with a wife and children blest.

The merchant died, and then 'twas known His wealth had in speculation flown. Then Jim, the open-handed said: "Here's a home for mother and brother Ned." And even wise Will looks up to him, For there's nobody now, like Brother Jim.

"What shall we do with our boys?" you said. 'Tis best if you let them learn a trade.

"You think it is low, but we don't agree—All 'labor is honor,' it seems to me; And a man with a trade, and a thorough skill, Can find employment, look where he will."

—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

SOME NATIVE CLIMBERS.

NEVER before has so much attention been given to native plants. One can scarcely pick up a paper or magazine without having these treasures presented in some form, and when we stop to consider the exquisite beauty and grace of them, it really seems strange that they have been kept so long in the rear.

The Virginia Creeper has for many years been a favorite climber, its bright autumn foliage adding materially to the beauty of the landscape and lending to it a feature akin to the ivy-covered walls of the mother country. Mrs. Dana tells us in her charming book, "How to Know the Wild Flowers," that it is extensively cultivated in Europe. "Even in Venice," says she, "that sea city where one so little anticipates any reminders of home woods and meadows, many a dim canal mirrors in October some crumbling wall or graceful trellis aglow with its vivid beauty." Its chief attraction is its luxuriant foliage, though the dark fruit adds to its glory in late summer. The Virgin's Bower, Clematis Virginiana, overlays its abundant foliage with a fleece of snowflake blossoms, and these are followed by a layer of equally charming plumose fruits, which form a charming background for

the orange-capsuled, scarlet seeded bittersweet, another hardy native climber. Though the blossoms of this plant are small and inconspicuous it presents in its fruit an autumnal splendor not easily eclipsed. Besides, the fruit may be preserved to brighten the holiday greens.

The trumpet creeper, Bignonia radicans, finds in its native woods a tree-trellis all that is desired. In Lucy Larcom's "Life, Letters and Diary," recently published, I find a letter addressed to Jean Ingelow regarding wild flowers, in which Miss Larcom says, "The most wonderful climber I ever saw was the trumpet vine of the West. It grew on the banks of the Mississippi, climbing to the tops of the immense primeval trees, bursting out there into great, red, clarion-like flowers. It seems literally to fix a foot in the trees as it climbs,—and it has an uncivilized way of pulling the shingles off the roofs of the houses over which it climbs." She might have added that it does not usually delay

its destructive work until reaching the roof, but its small branches work their way in between the siding, tearing it off also, as they increase in size. Those having brick or stone houses will find it an admirable drapery, as its sucker-like aerial roots firmly attach themselves to such a wall without injury to the latter. Others will find its native tree-trellis entirely suitable; or it may be supported by a stake and kept trimmed back to the proportions of the ordinary shrub.

The hardy moonflower, Ipomoea pandurata, should be better known. The root is tuberous and of immense size, often weighing from ten to twenty pounds; its appearance has gained for the plant the not inappropriate name of Man of the Earth. Such a root is naturally expected to produce luxuriant foliage and flowers, and in this case we are not disappointed. The blossoms are about three inches long, and unlike the common morning glory they remain open in bright sunshine.

These native climbers give sufficient evidence that the drapery of our own woods and fields does not suffer by comparison with that of foreign countries.

B. L. PUTNAM.

SOAP ECONOMY

I. Soap must Be clean.

III. Soap must Be cooling.

II. Soap must Be pure.

IV. Soap must Be pleasing.

Buttermilk

Toilet Soap

In it is all the good there can be in all good soap.

A million folks use it every day—a million clean witnesses. If you could see what goes into most soap—verily perfume covers a multitude of impurities—you would use Buttermilk soap or go soapless.

Buttermilk soap sells at half high-grade soap prices.

Sold by almost everybody who sells soap. If you cannot buy it in your town, send six 2-cent stamps, and we will send you a full size cake. COSMO BUTTERMILK SOAP CO., 185 and 187 Wabash Ave., Chicago.



Buttermilk Shaving Stick

Sold everywhere for ten cents. Sample box mailed on receipt of five 2-cent stamps. It is for all gentlemen, and all gentlemen will use it as soon as all gentlemen know about it.



ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH, 1895.

Entered in the Post Office at Rochester as "second-class" matter.

Vick's Monthly Magazine is published at the following rates, either for old or new subscribers.

These rates include postage:

One copy one year, in advance, Fifty Cents.

One copy twenty-seven months (two and one-fourth years), full payment in advance, One Dollar.

A Club of Five or more copies, sent at one time, at 40 cents each, without premiums. Neighbors can join in this plan.

Free Copies.—One free copy additional will be allowed to each club of ten (in addition to all other premiums and offers), if spoken of at the time the club is sent.

All contributions and subscriptions should be sent to Vick Publishing Co., at Rochester, N. Y.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.25 per agate line per month; \$1.18 for 3 months, or 200 lines; \$1.12 for six months, or 400 lines; \$1.06 for 9 months, or 600 lines; \$1.00 for 1 year, or 1000 lines. One line extra charged for less than five.

All communications in regard to advertising to Vick Publishing Co., New York office, 38 Times Building, H. P. Hubbard, Manager.

Average monthly circulation 1893, 200,000.

Hard Times Crops.

We have entered upon hard times, both towns people and country people, such as two years since no one thought of, and none had ever experienced. The causes for these hard conditions are various, and as soon as remedies can be applied betterments will follow. In the meantime what shall the farmer do who cannot raise paying crops of grain, or cotton, or wool, or what not? He must live, and he must get his living out of his land. What shall he raise? What shall they do at the West who last year, over a large area of country, could raise scarcely anything on account of the severe and long continued drought, and which may be repeated the coming season? In regard to these last the *Irrigation Farmer*, published at Salina, Kas., has this to say:

"The devastating hot winds of last summer rendered many a family upon the great plains penniless and destitute, but there is no class of people upon the earth that can endure hardship, suffering and deprivation more cheerfully than the western settler. But let every settler irrigate a garden this year if it is but two rods square. Irrigate that much and you will have something to live on if the hot winds do come."

The same journal shows that there are neglected sources of water throughout these dry regions which might be utilized if attention were given to the subject, the amount of water might be very small—might be limited even to a well—and yet at least a small bit of ground could be supplied with sufficient moisture for a crop. A garden of "two rods square" is a small one, but how few know the capacity of a little garden to supply the food of a family! Throughout the length and breadth of this Empire State with fertile soil and plenty of water, scarcely one farmer in a hundred has a generous supply of vegetables for the family table. And this State is no worse in this respect than all the others, and perhaps not quite so bad. It is a woful tale. A well cultivated half acre of ground

in well selected vegetables would give a supply for a family, summer and winter, such as most of them are strangers to, and would make them independent of want. The family garden well cared for would prove the key to success on many a farm. It would save many hard-earned dollars in raising other crops which now go to the country storekeeper or the grocer for supplies of one kind or another—canned vegetables and dried fruits.

The first consideration with every farmer or fruit grower should be a supply of vegetables for the table. It is equally important that the family should have a sufficiency of fruit the year round, and this can be raised with a little attention and labor. Nearly all the labor of cultivating in a good kitchen garden on the farm can be performed with the aid of a horse. Plant both vegetables and fruits in long rows and use a horse and cultivator, running through them often enough to keep the ground light and mellow at all times, and such working will, of itself, secure crops against drought in all but the most severe seasons, or in the worst localities.

Production of a Small Garden.

Since writing about "Hard Times Crops," as found in another column, we have read with interest an account recently published in the *Rural New Yorker* of a small garden in Burlington, N. J. The owner of it, Mr. Charles H. Parker, took care of it mornings and evenings outside of his regular business hours. The size of his lot is 50x192 feet, on which is situated his house, about which is a fine lawn. The vegetable garden is 47x95 feet, which is almost exactly a tenth of an acre. Mr. Parker last season kept an account with his garden, giving it credit the same as if he had purchased the produce in the market at the current rates. Here is his report:

"I have supplied my family of ten persons with vegetables all summer. By actual count and measure, the little patch, 47x95 feet, yielded the following:

"Tomatoes, Ponderosa, 1,133 pounds; tomatoes, eighteen baskets, earlies and second earlies; rhubarb, sixty-eight bunches; onions, four baskets; cabbage, forty-seven heads; egg plants, sixty-four; string beans, seven and one-half baskets; Lima beans, fifteen baskets and one-half peck; celery, between 1,000 and 1,100 roots; pickles, one bushel; strawberries, thirty-one quarts; peas, sixteen baskets and one-half peck; sweet corn, 480 ears; beets, 654, all counts; peppers, two baskets of Bull Nose and one bushel of the little Cayenne; radishes, both spring and winter, for family use; horse-radish, enough and to spare, with plenty of nasturtiums for the flowers and fruit; lettuce, both in hotbed and in the open, besides having a good lawn to mow twice a week, and raising thousands of flowers and a large quantity of grapes. There are also two rows, forty-five feet long each, of parsnips, and twenty-five feet long of salsify. I had spinach for family use. At the prices current when we ate these vegetables this produce would have cost us just \$105.33!"

"Why did you weigh the Ponderosa tomatoes?"

"The first were measured in a half-peck measure, but when I came to pick Ponderosa, I found that three or four filled the measure more than full, so I thought it fairer to weigh them."

"How large was the tomato patch?"

"There were forty-five plants trained to climb a pole like a Lima bean vine. When they got to the top, they went on a trellis made of plastering laths that was tacked from pole to pole, so it was possible to walk around and among them and under them without soiling even a white shirt. At the base of each one of the plants was an old tomato or corn can, with two or three holes punched in the bottom, and buried in the ground with the lid off. I could go along in the hottest noonday and water my plants without any injury whatever."

"So you believe in irrigation?"

"Yes! yes! I have 150 feet of garden hose, and as soon as a plant starts to grow, I keep it growing. When I attended my peas the last time this year, I sowed radishes, and set out head lettuce where the peas came up thin. The last day I picked peas, I turned them under, and before I went to my business I had string beans planted. By wetting the ground I had them up in four days, and after they came off I planted celery, and at Thanksgiving it stood eighteen inches high, thus producing peas, radishes, lettuce, string beans and celery on the very same spot."

"What manure do you use?"

"I give to my brother the stems that come out of the tobacco leaves, and he in turn gives them to his pigeons to nest with. When he cleans out his coops I get the old nests and the scrapings of the floor, and the scrapings of his chicken and rabbit coops. There are at least twenty-five wheelbarrow loads, and I scatter it all over the garden."

Besides the kitchen garden there is a fine lawn and space devoted to fruit trees and flowers, and of these last there was a beautiful display, and all the work of one man in his over-time. Farmers and villagers who do not give attention to their gardens are losing their best opportunities.

EARLY PLANTING.—To get the best crops of some kinds of vegetables and flowers they require early planting. This is true of the onion, and good onion growers do not let the grass grow under their feet in the early spring. It is true of the early or smooth varieties of peas, and not less so of sweet peas. Oats, to produce a good crop, should be got in early. The only good crops of oats last season in all this region were those which were put in the last of March or early in April. These early crops require the cool weather to make their roots and to send them down into the soil where they will not be greatly affected by the heat which comes later. Most early crops are especially benefited by a dressing of nitrate of soda.

Sadly Afflicted

Boils and Eruptions Caused by Impure Blood.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Made Her Well, Strong and Healthy.

"When our little daughter was six months old an eruption of the skin appeared, and shortly large boils came which were filled with watery matter and which caused the child much suffering. She would scratch until the blood would flow, later crusting over. One physician said the cause was teething, and another thought it was scrofula. All treatments, remedies, baths, salves and plasters were of no avail. Anna grew pale and became weaker, and from day to day

Lingered and Suffered

until she was 4 years old. I was completely discouraged when I happened to notice a cure by Hood's Sarsaparilla of a boy suffering from a complaint similar to that of my child's. I bought one bottle and after giving it to Anna a few days I noticed satisfactory improvement. Before the bottle was entirely used she had greatly

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

changed and after a few weeks the disease had disappeared. The child had a good appetite and became well, and

Is Strong and Healthy, without any ailment." CHARLES SIHLER, 156 Antietam Street, Detroit, Mich.

Hood's Pills are tasteless, mild, effective. All Druggists. 25 cents.

Spring is 'Most Here.

Little folks, little folks, spring is 'most here;
Soft winds are humming and bluebirds appear;
Yesterday Red-breast stood winking at me,
Pluming his wings in the old apple tree.

Streamlets go sparkling and singing along;
Sunshine is golden, and the days now are long.
Fairy folks dance on the branches of trees,
Waking the buds which are kissed by the breeze.

Violets whisper low under their hoods,
Some in the meadows and some in the woods;
Peeping through leaves and dried grasses today,
Catching all sunbeams that happen that way.

Then hurry up, little folks, spring is 'most here;
Busy we must be at this time of year;
Ground to get ready, seeds to put in;
Who'll be the first one a blossom to win?

—Mrs. M. J. Smith.

CALIFORNIA HIBISCUS.

THE Californian Rose Mallow, Hibiscus Californicus, is a hardy herbaceous perennial plant. It forms a large shrub-like bush four or five feet in height by as much in breadth, producing from August to October a constant succession of the most showy flowers, pure white with a deep crimson throat. The individual flowers measure from six to seven inches across, and the effect of a specimen plant bearing dozens of these showy flowers at one time cannot be imagined, and as the plant can be grown as a single specimens or in groups on the lawn with the most satisfactory results, I have no hesitation in considering it to be one of the most desirable plants of recent introduction.

Although the plant is not at all fastidious as to soil or situation, it is well to give it an opportunity to properly develop itself; so it should have a very deep, well enriched soil and an open sunny situation. Every fall a good mulching of stable manure should be given, and carefully worked in around the plants the ensuing spring.

Propagation is readily effected not only by seeds, but by a careful division of the older plants, the operation being performed just before the plants start into growth in the spring.

Seeds are freely produced and they should be sown as soon as gathered or as early in the spring as possible, on a nicely prepared border. Sow thinly, cover slightly, and see that water is properly given and the young plants kept clean and free from weeds. With this treatment they will make a rapid growth and form nice plants for another season's use. They can be set where it is intended for them to bloom early in the following spring, and as the plants do best when they become well established it is advisable not to disturb or divide them after they are planted in their permanent positions.

CHAS. E. PARNELL.

Floral Park, N. Y.

GOVERNMENT SEED DISTRIBUTION.—After making a plain statement to Congress of the uselessness of the government's seed distribution, Secretary Morton's advice in the matter is wholly ignored and a full appropriation made for the purchase of seeds as usual by the Agricultural Department, to be distributed as formerly by congressmen, as political sop to their country friends.

If Baby is Cutting Teeth,

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea.

**Every path
hath a
puddle"
—every day its
dirt. Keep your
house clean and
your heart happy
by using
Sapolio**



FUNGIOUS DISEASES OF PLANTS.

A paper on this subject was read by Byron D. Halstead, at one of the meetings of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. One hundred and sixty-five fungous diseases of roses, he said, are recorded. The Black Spot is the most wide spread of all. Another is the Rose Powdery Mildew. Some of the others are the Downy Mildew, related to the Downy Mildew of the grape and that of the greenhouse lettuce; the Rose Anthracnose is related to the Bitter Rot of apples and grapes, and to the raspberry anthracnose; some rose-house plants have foliage badly marked with gray spots; if examined with a lense these spots are found to be dotted with minute black specks, the spore bearing organs—this is the rose leaf blight.

"Carnation Rust is the leading fungous enemy of carnations today. It appears in plump gray blisters upon the leaves and stems, and after the epidermis is broken the rusty brown spores escape in great numbers. It then appears much like rust of grains and grasses. The Carnation Leaf Spot appears in light brown, sometimes reddish patches, chiefly between joints of the stem, but often on any other part of the plant. * * * Most rust-spots can be scattered abroad by syringing."

The Carnation Anthracnose likes moisture and is most often developed near the ground surface.

"The violet leaf spot is distinguished from several other leaf spots by the dark center." There is another spot that appears on violet leaves which has no dark center, but dark specks are scattered over the whole brown spot.

Fungi were mentioned affecting the leaves of Cordyline terminalis and Dracena fragrans; an anthracnose attacking the Kentia palms; other fungi affecting the foliage and flowers of orchids.

As a rule, plants variegated with white are more subject to fungous diseases than entire green-leaved plants of the same species, on account of the lack of chlorophyll. Ficus elastica variegata, Funkia variegata, Aspidistra elatior variegata, etc., are frequently much disfigured by fungous blights. Under the general term of "damping off" are included most of the failure of seedlings in their early stages of growth. This trouble arises chiefly from the microscopic fungi of the genus Pythium of which the Pythium De Baryanum (Hesse.) is the most common. In structure the Pythiums are similar to the deep-seated mil-

dew, and nearly related to the Phytophthora infestans (De By.) which causes the potato rot. Seedlings are subject also to the whole list of parasitic enemies, which attack the host in its later life.

Cuttings, like seedlings, are subject to the attacks of all fungi that affect established plants of the same varieties.

Concerning remedies, the speaker said no one appreciates the lack of information on this subject more than he who wishes to instruct. The preventive means are, first, to start new plants from healthy stock, either from seeds or from slips free from disease; secondly, to prevent the germs of decay from entering the healthy plants; and thirdly, if such are present to check their growth as much as possible. Germs of decay enter from the soil, the air, or both. Care must be exercised that the seed-bed and the cutting-bench be germ free, and to this end all the woodwork of greenhouses should be cleaned and fumigated as frequently and thoroughly as possible. As the soil is a ready receptacle for spores, and soon gets charged with them, a frequent change of soil is important. But after these preventive measures have been carried out, it will be necessary to provide fungicides for occasional use in the greenhouse, as well as in the orchard and garden. Some germ destroyers, when properly used, have paid handsomely.

For roses, the mildew may be controlled by sulphur either dusted upon the foliage or heated upon the greenhouse pipes. The black spot has been checked by Bordeaux mixture, and the ammoniacal solution of carbonate of copper. The formula for Bordeaux mixture is five pounds of lime and five pounds of sulphate of copper in fifty gallons of water; each may be prepared and kept in stock, to be mixed as needed for spraying. The formula for ammoniacal solution of the carbonate of copper is five ounces of carbonate of copper dissolved in three quarts of strong (4F) ammonia, to be afterward added to fifty gallons of water. These two fungicides are the chief compounds that can be recommended for fungous diseases in the greenhouse. A solution of potassic sulphide (½ ounce of sulphide to one gallon of water) has proved a successful remedy in carnation diseases. Good results have followed the use of Bordeaux mixture for fungi on violets and many other plants would doubtless be benefited by its use.

The work against injurious fungi must be preventive instead of curative, and the old adage "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is nowhere more applicable. It is often true that the fungous enemy gets so far along with its destructive work that it is the part of wisdom to destroy the plants instead of trying to save them; much less should one propagate from them. Fungicides are most useful at the time of attack by the fungi, and therefore often need to be used before the fatal parasites show themselves. It is most likely that greenhouse plants generally would profit by a spraying now and then, and a more general use of fungicides is to be looked for by growers of ornamental plants.

The man who keeps his plants in the best way, observing the proper conditions of seed bed, soil, air and food supply, the one who has all things neat and clean will also be the one who sprays. He will not delay until the plants are sick through and through, but will use the fungicide as a shield for plants still healthy. Such an one will have the greatest pleasure in his plants, and be most largely rewarded by them for his watchful care.

A MODERN GARDEN OF EDEN.

The Wonderful Results of Irrigation.—Mammoth Potatoes.—The Yakima Valley for Health and Wealth.

In the foreground, a broad and seemingly almost level plain, covered or rather spotted with a growth of sage-brush from one to three feet in height; in the middle distance a bare, low line of hills; and in the background the snow-clad tops of far-off Mt. Tacoma and Mt. Adams rising like silvery clouds above the hills—that is what the traveller on the Northern Pacific Railway sees as he passes through the valley of the Yakima River in the State of Washington. The scenery, though not awe-inspiring like that of the Rockies, has a beauty of its own, and one who lived there could not fail to become fond of the place. The air, fragrant with the aromatic odor of the sage-brush, is peculiarly clear, dry and light, and one can see and hear at great distances. The valley is about 150 miles long. The river Yakima which waters it, and which gives a plentiful supply of water for the irrigation ditch which runs along side of the foothills, takes its rise in the Cascade Mountains and flows south-east into the Columbia River. It is a picturesque, swift-flowing stream of about an eighth of a mile in breadth, its banks being lined with a heavy growth of cotton-wood and other trees.

But the Yakima Valley is chiefly of interest on account of the great richness and variety of its agricultural products and the comparative ease with which the soil is worked. The barren-looking earth which seems capable of supporting only sage-brush, when irrigated is found to yield from 300 to 600 bushels of potatoes to the acre, and to give four and five crops of alfalfa, or in all from six to eight tons to the acre. Peaches, grapes, apples, pears, plums, prunes, apricots, cherries, nectarines, quinces, and small fruits all grow in the Yakima Valley, yield large crops, and call for a less expenditure of labor in the planting and tending than they would in most other fruit-growing districts.

The products of the Yakima Valley began to be a theme of conversation as far east as St. Paul. The writer heard two gentlemen discussing Yakima potatoes on the train; one said that he and his family had feasted that morning off a Yakima potato. The other exclaimed "One!" There was no ground for astonishment, however, to one who had seen the products of the valley. Potatoes over a foot long and weighing three or four pounds are common enough there, and neat shaped, solid, good-flavored potatoes they are. There are large peach orchards which are a mine of wealth to their owners. The peach trees bear every year, and some years are so loaded down that their branches almost break with the weight. Prunes of the French, Italian, German, and Silver varieties grow splendidly and the climate is well adapted for drying them. In short, all the fruits grown in the valley yield large crops and are remarkably free from disease.

The soil, which is a basaltic detritus or "volcanic ash," is the same at a depth of fifty, or in some places a hundred feet, as it is at the surface. It is, therefore, inexhaustible, and it needs no manuring. It is a fine grey powder, and in the winds, which are occasionally quite strong, it obliterates the landscape, and causes man and horse, and house and orchard to become of a greyish hue. A settler told the writer that he could not grub the sage bushes in summer because of the dust getting into his lungs, but he said "There are some inconveniences everywhere, and the dust is the only one here, and it will give us less and less trouble as the land is cultivated and dampened by irrigation."

One fact which greatly helps the farmer in the Yakima Valley is that there are no weeds, and that none save the sage-brush can grow until the land is put under irrigation. As to the sage-brush itself it is easily gotten rid of; sometimes it is cleared off the land by merely dragging a steel rail over it; that process, however, does not get rid of all the roots, which are somewhat in the way in the after-working of the ground. The unanimous declaration of the settlers is that no one taking the most ordinary care

to cut down any weed that may make its appearance after water has been given to the land will be troubled with weeds. Cultivating, in the sense in which the word is used in the east, is not practiced and not required in this ground. This fact, together with the general fertility of the soil and the quickness of growth, would probably make the growing of flower and vegetable seeds in this locality a very profitable business.

The market of the Yakima Valley is chiefly Seattle, Tacoma, and other towns on Puget Sound, but potatoes and fruits in carload lots go to St. Paul and to Chicago. Potatoes this year bring about 35 cents a bushel in the field, and apples about \$2 a barrel.

The capital required to farm advantageously in the Yakima Valley is not many hundred dollars. Land can be had with perpetual water rights at \$55 an acre, and ten acres is considered a sufficiently large holding for one family. A "shack" large enough for a family of five can be put up for between \$40 and \$50, and as the winters are not cold, it need not be very solidly built. The farm implements required are not as numerous as they are where a great number of acres have to be cultivated for small returns, and horses can be had very cheap. A pair costing from \$25 to \$50 is quite sufficient to do the hauling, plowing, and other work for a ten acre lot.

One very important point concerning the Yakima Valley we have not yet touched upon. It is a health resort—one, indeed, which is not well known, but which nevertheless has greatly benefitted some people. One woman who had previously spent all her own and her husband's savings in travelling through many States, including Southern California, in search of health and freedom from catarrh, has at last found relief in the invigorating and yet mild climate of Yakima Valley. One year was sufficient to almost cure her, although the disease had got so bad that she could hardly sleep at night, and the soft palate had decayed away. Others told how they had been troubled with catarrh while living at Seattle and other places on the coast, and had recovered soon after they had made their home in the Yakima Valley.

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SACALINE.

This new plant is attracting much attention in all parts of the country—a proof that some drought-resisting fodder plant is very much needed. We have endeavored in our pages to state, without exaggeration, the qualities and peculiarities of this plant which we have had growing on our grounds for the past fourteen or fifteen years. We believe that in many places it will be found valuable and will supply fodder at times when other crops fail. Some very cautious people are advising their friends who think of trying it to “go slow,” as it will be found to have serious objections. Now, there is no necessity for this caution, for no one can go fast; there are neither seeds nor plants enough, nor can they be supplied at a sufficiently low price to allow of any large planting. All the plantings of this spring will be merely trials. It is true the plants make strong roots—if it were not so it could not so successfully withstand drought where other plants fail. And yet our experience with it shows that it does not extend its roots into cultivated ground beyond the space devoted to it. If one plants a half acre, or an acre or more, with this polygonum in the midst of cultivated ground, he need not fear that it will obtrude its roots beyond their allotted space. The statement “Once planted, stands forever,” is practically true of it. And yet it is possible to subdue it if one wishes to do so. On the other hand, some very extravagant statements have been made in regard to it and which are thoroughly imaginative and not founded on experience. It has been said that ground planted with it needs no plowing, and that the plants require no cultivation. Let not our readers be deceived by such statements; we advise that the land shall be prepared for the young plants as well as if for a crop of cabbage, and by all means cultivate the plants the first season. Then, again, it has been said that it will afford shade to cattle in summer and protection against storms in winter. This is highly picturesque, but quite Munchausen. There are other statements about it equally as unreliable, such, for instance, that it grows fourteen feet high by June. Left to itself, the plant, when established, annually grows from eight to ten feet high; but if it is cut for fodder three or four times in a season, no such growth can be expected. By cutting, the stems become more numerous and finer; and the crop should be cut when it stands from two to three feet high. By all means raise clover or alfalfa or corn fodder, but if you know that you cannot always do this, then try the Giant Knotgrass as a resort when all else fails.

A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.

The times are hard, but there always seems to be opportunities for those who are willing to work. In the past month I have made \$175 above all expenses, selling Climax Dish Washers, and have attended to my regular business besides. I never saw anything that gave as general satisfaction. One should not complain where they can make over \$8 a day, right at home. I have not canvassed any, so anxious are people for Climax Dish Washers that they send after them; any lady or gentleman can do as well as I am doing, for anyone can sell what everyone wants to buy. I think we should inform each other through the newspapers of opportunities like this, as there are many willing to work if they knew of an opening. For full particulars, address the Climax Mfg. Co., Columbus, Ohio. After you have tried the business a week, publish the results for the benefit of others.

THE GOLD FLOWER. NEW PLANTS.

At the January meeting of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Thomas B. Meehan, in speaking of new plants and trees, referred to Hypericum Moserianum in the following language:

Hypericum Moserianum is another good, small shrub that we have grown for the last five years. It is also a fall bloomer, and while not flowering profusely at one time, yet the period of bloom is from midsummer to late fall. Its flowers are larger than a silver dollar, and yellow.

In the same address Mr. Meehan mentions another new shrub:

The Caryopteris Mastacanthus is to be brought forth this spring with a great flourish of trumpets. It will also be called the “Blue Spiraea,” a name to which it has not the slightest claim, excepting that it is easier to pronounce than its own. Personally, if I were going to christen it with a new name I should call it the Hardy Blue Verbena, because the leaves smell more of that plant than of anything else. Leaving the name aside, it is a good thing; a little tender, perhaps, but not sufficiently so to injure it entirely. It blooms in the fall, lasting into the month of October. We have tested it here for the past three years, and think well of it.

The following claim in the same speech we think should not go unchallenged either by Boston, Brooklyn, Rochester, or Cleveland, or by all of them. But if it is true we hope that a knowledge of it may be a spur to citizens everywhere to judiciously plant their grounds, as they can do at a small expense and thus add to their beauty and enjoyment:

Regarding general planting of ornamental trees and shrubs, the suburbs of Philadelphia are, in my opinion, far in advance of the surroundings of other cities; and in a more limited area one can see a greater number of beautiful suburban homes than in any other place. Even homes where there is but a very small plot of ground the owner plants more or less ornamental nursery stock, and I notice in my visits to other cities that the homes are lacking in this respect.

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THE NEW FIGHT AGAINST CHILD- REN'S DISEASES.

Whereas in European cities the battle of the municipal and health authorities, so far as epidemics were concerned, was 'until a few years ago waged chiefly against small-pox, typhus, and occasional outbreaks of cholera, it is now considered that the victory has in the main been won against these bolder and grosser enemies of the race, and the conflict has set in against the diseases which are hostile to child life. Scarlet fever and diphtheria are the chief of these children's maladies, with measles as a less dreaded but extremely mischievous third. Thus far the weapons have been mainly those of vigilant, never-ceasing inspection, immediate isolation, disinfection through the aid of highly organized official disinfecting staffs, and in general the sharp blocking up of those avenues through which infection is most likely to be communicated. The difficulty of perfect isolation in tenement houses has led to the great extension of public hospitals for the reception of children ill with diphtheria, scarlet fever and measles. The great objects of the administrators of the public health system are (1) to abolish the plague spots which are the sources of infection, and (2) when infection has appeared to prevent its spread. This of course is the sound policy to be pursued. But, (3) and concurrently, every possible effort is made to save the lives of the poor children actually seized with infectious maladies. If we are rightly informed with regard to the anti-toxine cure for diphtheria, its application is to be beneficial both as a preventive against attack and also, where not previously applied, as a remedy to be administered in the early stages of the disease. Its immediate interest naturally lies in its use as a remedy.—*January Review of Reviews.*

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250 Acres of Nursery.

41st Year.

25,000 feet of Greenhouses.

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LITTLE SILVER, N. J.

A Dream of Summer.

Though damp and cold my foxgloves lie,
I hear their clear bells ringing;
Though birds have flown to a brighter sky,
I hear their joyous singing.

Though gone the blossoms once so fair,
Beneath the rose tree lying,
Their pleasant fragrance fills the air
When soft, low winds are sighing.

The tint and glow of an insect wing
In the dark brown earth is hiding,
And the joys of summer blossoming
In its kindly depths are biding.

But still I would not have you say
My pleasure is but seeming,
For their wondrous charms come back today
In the spell of idle dreaming.

—Mrs. S. E. Kennedy.

RUST AND ANTHRACNOSE.

Last season we were considerably troubled with the rust upon our carnations, and none of the remedies tried were entirely satisfactory. Bordeaux mixture, perhaps, was as effective as anything, but although it held the disease pretty well in check, the plants were at no time entirely free from it. The lime also makes it undesirable to use, as it not only soils the flowers, but gives the plants and the woodwork of the houses an untidy appearance.

This year, although the plants of other florists seem even more affected than in previous seasons, we have not been troubled by the rust, notwithstanding the plants were propagated from diseased stock. During the summer, the plants were grown in the open ground, and were given weekly sprayings with either Bordeaux mixture or ammoniacal copper carbonate. When placed in the houses about the middle of September, a good many of the leaves were spotted with the rust.

Having used a weak solution of copper sul-

phate (without lime) with success upon other plants, it was tried upon the carnations, with the hope that it might check the rust. So beneficial was it that we have discarded all other remedies, and find that our plants are today practically free from disease, an occasional spot upon one of the lower leaves being all that can be found.

After trying a number of strengths, we have settled upon a solution of one part of copper sulphate to one thousand parts of water as safe to use upon most greenhouse plants, the only one that shows any harm being forcing beans, for which a solution of one part to 2000 is preferred; and, by the way, this cured them of a bad attack of anthracnose.

While a considerably weaker solution would undoubtedly be sufficient to prevent carnation rust, we are not ready to recommend it.

The preparation is, of course, very simple, as one merely needs to dissolve six ounces of copper sulphate in a barrel (50 gallons) of water. L. R. Taft, Agricultural College, Michigan.

ABOUT THE SAME.

Little Visitor—"Why does your mother put such a little bit of a picture on that big easel?"

Little Hostess—"I don't know; but that easel cost \$50, an' I guess mamma doesn't want to cover it up."

It is about the same way that some people look at the question of planting climbers about porches and verandas.

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I am growing tired of answering letters from people who have heard of my success selling Rapid Dish Washers. If you will print this it will save much of my valuable time. I can wash a set of dishes perfectly in a half minute. Sell nearly every family, hotel and restaurant. Make usually from \$5 to \$20 per day. Buy my Dish Washers from W. P. Harrison & Co., Columbus, Ohio. They sell at sight. Circulars cost nothing. LUCY B.



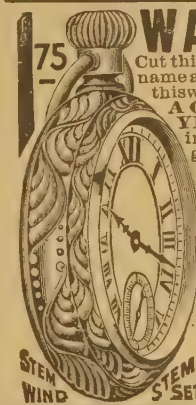
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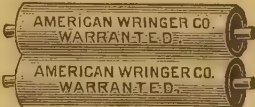
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ING people, male or female, old or young, earn \$30 to \$60 a week, day or evening, in their own town. Requires no capital. Samples free. KENDALL & CO., Manchester, N. H.

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COTTON STATES EXPOSITION.—The February number of the *Review of Reviews* contains a profusely illustrated article on the Cotton States and International Exposition, contributed by Hon. Clark Howell, editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*. The article covers the industrial situation in the Southern States in a very comprehensive manner, and shows that the Exposition is international in a very broad sense of the term. This article is to be printed also in the European edition, which circulates in every civilized country. The American and foreign editions together have a circulation of about 250,000 copies, and this article will do more than anything heretofore printed to give the Exposition a world-wide publicity. The text is artistically illustrated with handsome cuts of the different buildings and excellent half-tone portraits of the officers.

A WORK OF ART.

A bright writer in the New York *Evening Sun* says: "The ideal city, or the city of the future, will yet contain its thoroughfares for the wheelmen, as the best regulated towns already exclude certain kinds of traffic from a part of their thoroughfares. These noiseless thoroughfares would be sought after for residence and the retail trade. Property fronting upon them would outstrip all other property in value."

This refers, of course, to cities, but in the interests of the "silent steed," or bicycle, it is also noticeable that a greater degree of health and strength is apparent in both sexes in localities where bicycles are freely used. It is impossible to ride a "bike" without exercising every muscle of the body and every function of the brain, and therefore its use is a "health bringer" to all people everywhere who are troubled with bodily ailments and weaknesses.

In order to be one of the philanthropists of the country in aiding people to "keep well," the Pope Mfg. Co., of Hartford, Conn., have issued a bicycle catalogue which is really a work of art. A bicycle catalogue can be more than a mere price-list of the maker's goods. It can be beautiful with the best work of noted artists and designers, as well as rich in information besides.

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THE PAST WINTER.

Until after Christmas the weather in all parts of the country had been unusually mild; then a change occurred and cold weather has since prevailed. Early in February the cold began to increase in intensity and on the 7th, 8th and 9th a very low temperature prevailed over nearly the whole continent east of the Rocky Mountains. In Florida and the other Gulf States, including Texas, the cold was unusually severe and did great damage to vegetation. Most of the orange crop was destroyed and the trees more or less injured. Garden truck of all kinds was ruined. It has been estimated that the damage in the South amounts to \$15,000,000. A heavy snow storm and severe winds over a large portion of territory came with, or immediately preceded, the cold wave. The mercury hung about zero for nearly a week, and up to

this writing (February 26th) the temperature has remained low most of the time. A few days there has been a little thawing and a large body of snow and ice now covers the northern country. Snowstorms occurred far south, so that sleighing was indulged in at Atlanta and even New Orleans. Some damage is anticipated when the ice in the streams breaks up, but it is hoped that thawing may be gradual and thus danger be averted.

A considerable amount of work in orchards and vineyards which would otherwise have been done has been delayed by the snow. All such work, however, should have attention as early as possible in March. Vines and trees should be pruned and all outdoor work forwarded as rapidly as possible. When milder weather comes there will be a rush of work to be performed at short notice. The preparation of the ground for early crops will have to be hastened as soon as the soil is sufficiently dry.



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To get my catalog into your hands (and then get your orders) I make the **wonderful offer of TEN** summer-flowering bulbs and **10** packets of fine flower seeds for only **25 cents** in silver or stamps. Did you ever hear of anything like it? Notice the **QUALITY**, too.

- 1 bulb **Excelsior Pearl Tuberosa**, double.
- 1 " **Pink FAIRY LILY**, beautiful color.
- 1 bulb **Superb Seedling Gladiolus**.
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- 1 pkt **NANKEEN YELLOW POPPY**, a splendid novelty of the great Paeony-fld type.
- 1 **Calliopis, Golden Wave**, fine bedder.
- 1 " **Curious Dish-rag Gourd**.
- 1 **Dianthus, Eastern Queen**, a beauty.
- 1 **Linaria Bipartita Splendida**.
- 1 **Pansy, Snow Queen**, purest white.
- 1 **Schizanthus, Orchid-like Butterfly flower**.
- 1 **Petunia Hybrida**, super-fine mixed.
- 1 **Nemophila, "Baby Eyes"**.
- 1 **Sweet Peas**, superb named sorts, mixed.

and my dainty catalog of low-priced seeds, fine Cannas, Tuberosa Begonias, bulbs & plants. And all this need not cost you a cent, for I will enclose a premium coupon giving you from **25 to 75 cents extra free on your first \$1.00 to \$2.00 order**. I will refund your money at once if you are not perfectly satisfied; I am determined to please you. **Send To-day, before you forget it.**

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THE COMET SPRAY & FORCE PUMP & **HAND PUMP COMBINED**. ALL BRASS FOR \$2.50. THOUSANDS IN USE. SELLS ON SIGHT, DOUBLE ACTING, THROWS WATER 60 FEET. BOOK OF SPRAYING RECIPES FREE. EVERY FARMER & FRUIT GROWER SHOULD SEND FOR CATALOGUE. I CAN INTEREST YOU LIVE AGENTS WANTED. **H. B. RUSLER MFR JOHNSTOWN OHIO, U.S.A.**



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THE BLACK CALLA.

There appears to be some difficulty in bringing this bulbous plant, *Arum Sanctum*, into bloom. It is a native of a warm country, Egypt it is understood, and makes its growth during the winter rainy season, blooms in spring and rests during the heat of summer. The bulbs are brought into this country in autumn, and that undoubtedly is the best time to pot and start them. If kept longer they should be managed about the same as the tuberose, keeping them dry and warm. It is a plant which needs plenty of water during its growth, and an insufficient supply of it is probably the cause of many failures of bloom. Heat and moisture are the two leading requirements.

Ludwig Schiller, writing from experience, in the *American Florist*, says: "To get *Arum sanctum* to bloom it is necessary to secure good bulbs, which should be planted in a rich soil. As soon as they root through, re-pot them into larger pots, just deep enough so that the top of the bulb is well covered with soil; keep them well watered, as this prevents offshoots. If a bulb has once given offshoots it is of no use to trouble any more with the old bulb. Keep in a warm house, where there is plenty of light."

BORDEAUX FOR DISEASED VIOLETS AND CARNATIONS.—Bordeaux mixture for "leaf spot" of violets has been tried by W. V. Duryn, of Mattituck, N. Y., and reported to the *American Florist*. The plants which were sprayed with Bordeaux were checked in growth by means of it. Of 135 sprayed plants in one bed only thirty-five remain which are of any value. "I would like to state," he says, "that since the advent of cold weather the 'spot' form of fungus has not been very apparent, but the yellowing of the whole leaf, beginning at the margin, has been quite troublesome." He also used the Bordeaux mixture for carnation rust, and with gratifying results.

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RAISING DOUBLE VIOLETS.

[Read before the Florists' Club of Philadelphia] by Wm. Swayne.]

I was somewhat surprised to receive a request to write on this subject, one I know so little about. I have, however, been growing violets for several years with only fair success, and from former experience at least, they have been a very unprofitable investment. The fact that they have taken a second place with us, growing until room is needed for young carnation stock, is no reason why they cannot be grown successfully, and thus pay handsomely. First we tried Marie Louise; in the early part of the season the plants would look fine, but without apparent cause "spot" would come and the plants succumb to it. When one of the professors of the Department of Agriculture at Washington visited us he stated that one of their experts had been trying to solve the mystery of violet diseases, and knew no more at the end of a year's work than he did when he started, we gave up in despair of ever being successful with them.

There seems to be quite a variety of ways of growing, each one believing his own best. We have planted a frame or lean-to early in June with part of our plants, removing sash and growing as an outdoor crop, and then putting sash on after a few hard frosts. These have done splendidly all season, and are full of buds at the present time. The balance were grown in the field, runners kept off, making much larger clumps; they were brought into the house October 1. This lot has produced nearly as many flowers but not so fine as those grown in frames, either in color or size of bloom. I think they should have been planted in houses at least two weeks sooner, as they start slow, so as to have plenty of time to get well established before the weather gets too cold. A temperature of 40° night, 60° to 65° in the day, has given the best results. Good ventilation is needed, and keep the plants clean at all times; then with as little fire heat as possible, and plenty of water, a profitable crop will be the result.

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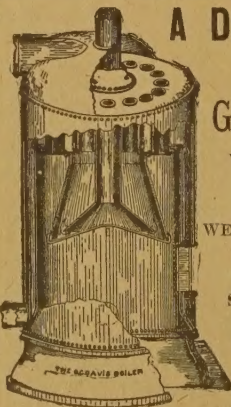


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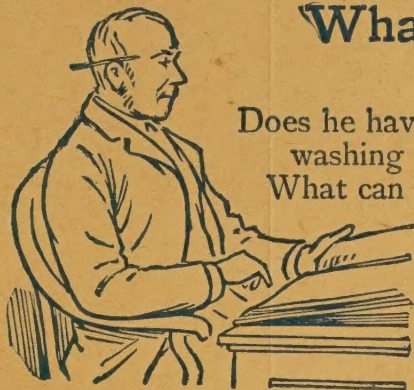
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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
About the Same	81
Achillaea, Nasturtium and Gypsophila	71
Art, A Work of	82
Bordeaux for Diseased Violets and Carnations	83
Calla, The Black	83
Children's Diseases, The New Fight Against	80
Clematis Jackmanni	70
Climbers, Some Native	75
Cotton States Exposition	82
Early Planting	76
Fruit for Small Places	72
Fungous Diseases of Plants	77
Garden of Eden, A Modern	78
Garden, Production of a Small	76
Garden, Our	70
Gold Flower, The	79
Government Seed Distribution	77
Government Seeds	73
Hard Times Crops	76
Hibiscus, California	77
Hibiscus Crispus Eye	73
How Mrs. Barnes went to the World's Fair	69
Letter Box	74
Celery, Vick's Caprice, Propagating Wistaria, Cabbage, Small Spiders, White Worms in Soil, Plants for Window Boxes, Potato Scab, Knotgrass for an immediate Crop, A Kansas Letter, Plant Gossip.	
Nicotiana, Sweet-Scented	71
Old Fort Dallas	72
Plants, New	72
Potato Culture	70
Pottery, A Dream of Summer	81
Down Where the Violets Grow	69
Our Boys	75
Spring is Most Here	77
Rust and Anthracnose	81
Sacaline	79
Strawberry Tea, A	69
Violets	71
Raising Double	84
Winter, The Past	82
Work for March	73

TRANSPLANTING TO COUNTRY HOMES.—The work of transplanting unemployed or poorly employed individuals and families from congested centers of population into agricultural districts, which was begun and successfully prosecuted last spring under the auspices of the Civic Federation of Chicago, is now resumed under the same superintendence by the Bureau of Labor and Transportation. A large percentage of the unemployed, both male and female, are willing to go, and there can come to them no boon so great as to be thus transplanted. In such work many become farm help, many tenants, many purchasers on the installment plan, and some go to colonize or on homesteads. The work is a help to self-help. It converts consumers into producers. The Bureau is a bit of inexpensive machinery which stands as an intermediary between the men who seek and the men who offer employment, between individuals also and railroad corporations, and so arranges matters on a mutual benefit basis that neither the one nor the other is conscious of either receiving or giving "charity," and yet it is philanthropic in a very true and broad sense. Any one having an opening for work of any kind should address the secretary, John Visser, 719—167 Dearborn Street, Chicago.—*Inter-Ocean.*



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